

INTRODUCTION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY RELATING TO "NATIONAL BANKS AND FEDERAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATIONS AS LENDERS"

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce this joint resolution to repeal the OCC's so-called "True Lender Rule."

Predatory loans trap working families into cycles of debt they can't pay off, and the Trump Administration's True Lender Rule helps lenders get around state laws that protect consumers. Just this week my state of Illinois enacted a law that caps interest rates on consumer loans at 36%, but my constituents won't be fully protected until the True Lender Rule is repealed.

People are more vulnerable than ever to predatory loans as they struggle to make ends meet due to the economic crisis caused by the COVID pandemic. Congress should act quickly to repeal this flawed rule that undermines important safeguards set by state governments like mine.

HONORING CRYSTAL MARTIN AS THE 2020 WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Crystal Martin, whom I have named the 2020 Woman of the Year in Lake County, California. Woman of the Year recognizes women who have made important contributions to California's 5th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation or Community Service.

Born in Fayetteville, North Carolina, Ms. Martin is well known across our district for her interest and engagement in several fundraising events in Lake County, as well as her exceptional work in the Lake County District Attorney's Office. She is also a devoted wife and mother and she takes great pride in her family.

In 2016, inspired by the generosity of women in her community, Ms. Martin co-founded the "100+ Women Who Care" in Lake County. Currently, the organization consists of approximately 150 women and has raised more than \$200,000 for non-profit groups, 100 percent of which goes directly to the chosen non-profits in the Lake County area.

Crystal works as the Lake County District Attorney's Victim-Witness Program Administrator as an advocate for victims. Her skills have allowed many victims of violence to continue their journeys to healing and reconcili-

ation by ensuring that their offenders have been brought to justice. Ms. Martin has also helped many victims of violence navigate the sometimes-overwhelming criminal justice system. Always committed to protecting and supporting the interests of those for whom she advocates; Ms. Martin has helped victims navigate their difficult experiences.

Madam speaker, Ms. Crystal Martin is a dedicated advocate who has devoted her life to helping members of our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today as Lake County's 2020 Woman of the Year.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR PAY ACT OF 2021

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, March 24th was Equal Pay Day, which marked the number of additional days a woman must work to earn what a man earned the prior year. The 1963 Equal Pay Act (EPA), the first of the great civil rights statutes of the 1960s, has grown creaky with age and needs updating to reflect the new workforce, in which women work almost as much as men.

What maybe the best case for a stronger and updated EPA occurred in the Congress in 2003, when female custodians in the House and Senate won an EPA case after showing that female workers were paid a dollar less per hour for doing the same or similar work as males. Had those women not been represented by their union, they would have had an almost impossible task in using the rules for bringing and sustaining an EPA class action lawsuit.

My own experience as the first woman to chair the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission afforded me the opportunity to enforce the EPA. However, if women are to get equal pay, they need the Fair Pay Act (FPA). I again introduce this bill on behalf of the average female worker, who is often first steered to, and then locked into, jobs with wages that are deeply influenced by the gender of individuals who have traditionally held such jobs. Much of the wage inequality women experience today is because of employer-steering and deeply rooted wage stereotypes, which result in wages paid according to gender and not according to the skill necessary to do the job. I introduce the FPA because the pay disparity most women face today stems mainly from the segregation of women and men in different jobs and paying women in female-dominated jobs systematically less. Two-thirds of white women and three quarters of African-American women work in just three areas: sales/clerical, service and factories. We need more aggressive strategies to break through the societal barriers present throughout history the world over, as well as employer-steering based on gender, which is as old as paid employment itself.

The FPA would require that if men and women are doing comparable work, they must be paid comparable wages. If a woman, for example, is an emergency services operator, a female-dominated profession, she should not be paid less than a fire dispatcher, a male-

dominated profession, simply because each of these jobs has been dominated by one gender. If a woman is a social worker, a traditionally female occupation, she should not earn less than a probation officer, a traditionally male job, simply because of the gender associated with each of these jobs.

The FPA would not tamper with the legal burden. Under the FPA, as under the EPA, the burden would be on the plaintiff to prove discrimination. The plaintiff must show that the reason for the disparate treatment is gender discrimination, not legitimate market factors.

Remedies to achieve comparable pay for men and women are not radical or unprecedented. State governments, in red and blue states alike, have shown that it is possible to eliminate the part of the pay gap that is due to discrimination. Twenty state governments have adjusted wages for female-dominated professions, raising pay for teachers, nurses, clerical workers, librarians, and other female-dominated jobs that paid less than comparable male-dominated jobs. Minnesota, for example, implemented a pay equity plan when it found that traditionally female jobs paid 20 percent less than comparable traditionally male jobs. There may well be some portion of the gender wage gap that is traceable to market factors, but 20 states have shown that you can tackle the gender discrimination-based wage gap without interfering in the market system. States generally have closed the wage gap over a period of four to five years at a one-time cost of no more than three to four percent of payroll.

In addition, many female workers routinely achieve pay equity through collective bargaining, and countless employers provide it on their own as they see women shifting out of vital female-dominated occupations as a result of the shortage of skilled workers, as well as because of the unfairness to women. Unequal pay has been built into the way women have been treated since Adam and Eve. To dislodge such deep-seated and pervasive treatment, we must go to the source, the traditionally female occupations, where pay is linked with gender and always has been.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF RACHEL SANDERS

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rachel Sanders on receiving the Outstanding COVID-19 Care Award from the Greater Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce.

Rachel is a Physician Assistant in the Critical Care Unit at WellSpan Chambersburg Hospital. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Rachel has worked tirelessly to care for some of the sickest patients in the hospital. Her dedication to the patients and their families is evidence of her compassion and dedication. Going above and beyond, Rachel has often used her personal technology to help patients communicate with their families that are unable visit due to COVID-19 protocols.

Rachel exhibits true dedication, compassion, and professionalism to the patients of

WellSpan Chambersburg Hospital. On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th District, I congratulate Rachel on this achievement and thank her for her service to our community.

JAMIE GONZALEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jamie Gonzalez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jamie Gonzalez is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. H.S. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jamie Gonzalez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jamie Gonzalez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING JIM THATCHER

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Thatcher of Dearborn County, Indiana. Jim served as the Republican County Chairman of Dearborn County. He committed his time, talents and energy to the Sixth Congressional District and the rest of the Hoosier state. I am grateful for his service. A dedicated public servant, Jim also serves Dearborn County as a commissioner and sits on the Planning Commission and Board of Community Mental Health. Jim is a member of the Bright Lions Club, the Scottish Rite of the Valley of Cincinnati, and the Southeastern Indiana Shrine Club. Finally, I have gotten to know Jim over the last four years, and I am grateful for his friendship. I thank Jim Thatcher.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
BANGLADESH'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. ANDY LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence, which is being celebrated on March 26, 2021.

On March 7, 1971, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who is called "Mujib" and is also known as the "Father of the Nation," delivered a speech calling for what was then known as East Paki-

stan to become an independent state. Bangladesh became independent from Pakistan on March 26, 1971, and since then, March 26th has been observed as a national holiday in Bangladesh. It is a day when people in Bangladesh as well as people around the world of Bangladeshi descent remember those who lost their lives in the brutal 1971 war for independence and celebrate Bangladesh's victory as a new independent nation.

The people of Bangladesh and the Bangladeshi diaspora, including Bangladeshi Americans in Michigan's 9th District, are observing the golden jubilee of the Independence Day and celebrating throughout the month of March. The 50th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence is deeply meaningful to those with connections to Bangladesh, there and abroad. I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing those working to honor Bangladesh's history by holding special events around the world, and in congratulating the people of Bangladesh and all Bangladeshi Americans on this historic day.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE HERITAGE,
CULTURE, AND CONTRIBUTIONS
OF LATINAS IN THE UNITED
STATES

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, one in six women in the United States is a Latina. There are currently nearly twenty-nine million Hispanic women living in the United States. Latinas have been part of our nation's fabric from the start. They contribute to our nation through their work in business, education, science and technology, medicine, engineering, mathematics, literature and the arts, the military, agriculture, hospitality, and public service at every level of the government. Latinas have served as essential workers throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and have kept the economy going and the people of the United States safe. Many have overcome a unique set of challenges and have paved their own paths to success. During National Women's History Month, I want to honor the millions of Latinas who have contributed to our nation.

Therefore, I am reintroducing a resolution recognizing the heritage, culture, and contributions of Latinas in the United States. This resolution will recognize their contributions to American society and further celebrates those who have inspired the next generation.

HONORING ANNETTE TAYLOR AS
THE 2020 WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Annette Taylor, whom I have named the 2020 Woman of the Year in Solano County, California. Woman of the Year recognizes women who have made

important contributions to California's 5th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation or Community Service.

Born in Savannah, Georgia, Ms. Taylor's family moved to Vallejo in 1958. She attended the University of San Francisco and graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Behavior. A member of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce and the Solano County Black Chamber of Commerce, Ms. Taylor has prioritized nurturing local small businesses toward success and advocating for equity and equality for all. These efforts have not gone unnoticed, earning her dozens of accolades. Most notably, she was the recipient the Assemblywoman Pat Wiggins Woman of Achievement Award, not once but twice, in 2000 and 2002 and the Athena Award in 2004 from the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce.

Over the course of her life as a community leader, Ms. Taylor has had an immense impact on the people of Vallejo. A lifetime member and former president of the Vallejo Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Ms. Taylor has proven herself a leader amongst others. She has been an effective community advocate for communities of color in her roles as a life member and the former first vice president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's (NAACP) Vallejo Branch, receiving the President's Award in 1988.

Ms. Taylor currently serves as the Senior Community Development Analyst in the Economic Development Division in the city of Vallejo. In 2000 and 2020, Ms. Taylor received the California on Location Award as the Employee of the Year for Cities for her many years of professionally supporting the film industry and their activities. She has utilized her personal and professional successes to lift worthy causes in our community. Further, as a consummate philanthropist, Ms. Taylor has donated to the arts, public broadcasting and veterans.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Annette Taylor is a lifelong public servant, dedicated to giving back to our community of Vallejo, and a great friend. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor Ms. Annette Taylor here today as Solano County's 2020 Woman of the Year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today regarding a vote I missed on March 17, 2021.

Had I been present for Roll Call Vote 88 on the COVID-19 Bankruptcy Relief Extension Act of 2021 (H.R. 1651), I would have voted yea. During the COVID-19 pandemic, small businesses and American families have struggled to make ends meet. This bill offers critical support to businesses by extending the bankruptcy relief provisions in the CARES Act for another year. I was honored to vote for these provisions in the CARES Act and am a strong supporter of extending them. In keeping with the spirit of this legislation, I will continue to advocate for relief to small businesses and economic recovery in the wake of COVID.